

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A cutting element for a drill bit used in drilling subterranean formations is formed with an internal chamber or passage for the flow of drilling fluid therethrough. The cutting element includes a substrate having at least one internal passage, and prior to attaching a superabrasive table thereto, the at least one internal passage is filled with a removable, substantially incompressible filler material. Attachment or bonding of the superabrasive table to the substrate under high temperature and high pressure is accomplished without significant distortion of the shape and size of the internal passage. The filler material may be a crystalline salt such as sodium chloride or halite, which is removable by dissolution in water, or may be boron nitride or a volcanic material such as Pyrofolite material which is mechanically removable.

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